

Italian Studies

College of Letters and Science (<http://ls.berkeley.edu>)

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Department Website: Italian Studies (<http://italian.berkeley.edu>)

Overview

The undergraduate program in Italian Studies is interdisciplinary in nature, affording students the opportunity to emphasize Italian language, literature, history, cultural studies, and film. Students choose from among departmental course offerings in Italian literature, arts, culture, and history. Upper-division courses with significant Italian content are often taught in other departments and programs in the Divisions of Arts and Humanities and of the Social Sciences, among them History, History of Art, Music, Comparative Literature, Film Studies, and Medieval Studies. See our website or other course listings of the department or program you are interested in for specific information. Such courses may be counted toward the major with approval of the faculty undergraduate adviser and within the specified limitations for course work taken in English. Adviser approval should be sought prior to enrollment.

The graduate program offers in-depth training in the field of Italian Studies, leading to the PhD degree. Beginning with a strong foundation in the critical analysis and historical understanding of Italian literature, the program encourages exploration of a wide range of disciplinary and interdisciplinary areas, including, but not limited to, film studies; comparative literature; literary, rhetorical, and cultural theory; gender studies; history; anthropology; history of art and music; architecture; classics; political science; medieval and early modern studies; Romance languages and literature; and so on.

Major Requirements (52 units)

Lower Division (20 units): Italian Studies 1, 2, 3, and 4, Elementary/Intermediate/Advanced Italian, or their equivalent in linguistic proficiency.

Upper Division (32 units):

- **Language:** Italian Studies 101A and 101B, Advanced Grammar, Reading, and Composition (8 units)
- **Introduction to Italian culture or literature:** Italian Studies 103, History of Italian Culture, **or** Italian Studies 104, Reading Italian Literature (4 units)
- **Electives:** chosen from Italian literature, cultural studies, history, and film (20 units/5 courses)

Up to 8 units or 2 courses with primary readings and discussion in English may be counted toward the total major unit requirement offered in the Italian Studies department and departments such as History of Art, History, and, when offered, Medieval Studies, Music or Comparative Literature. Courses in other departments may be taken with advance permission of the undergraduate faculty adviser.

Education Abroad: Up to 12 units/3 courses may count toward upper-division requirements. At least 12 units must be taken in residence. All

courses for the major must be taken on a letter-grade basis. A grade-point average of 2.0 must be maintained in the major and overall.

Honors Program

To enter the honors program, in addition to having a minimum overall 3.3 GPA, majors must have completed at least 20 upper division units in the major with a minimum GPA of 3.5. Candidates must enroll in Italian Studies H195 for one semester in their senior year during which they will carry out research and write an honors thesis under the guidance of a faculty member. Students who meet the GPA requirements must first consult with the undergraduate faculty adviser in order to pursue an honors thesis.

Minor Requirements (40 units)

Students in the College of Letters and Science may complete one or more minors of their choice, normally in a field both academically and administratively distinct from their major.

Lower Division Language (20 units): Italian Studies 1, 2, 3, and 4, Elementary/Intermediate/Advanced Italian, or their equivalent in linguistic proficiency.

Upper-Division (20 units):

- **Language:** Italian Studies 101A **or** 101B (4 units)
- **Intro. to culture or literature:** Italian Studies 103 **or** 104 (4 units)
- **Electives:** 3 courses in Italian literature, cultural studies, film (12 units)

At least 12 units must be taken in residence. Up to 4 units of coursework with primary readings and discussion in English may be counted toward the minor unit requirement taken either in the Italian Studies department or with courses with Italian cultural content in other departments (e.g., History, History of Art, Music, Comparative Literature) with advance permission of the undergraduate faculty adviser.

Education Abroad units: No more than two courses (8 units) earned through Education Abroad Programs may count toward upper division requirements. All courses for the minor must be taken on a letter-graded basis. A GPA of 2.0 is required in upper division courses work.

Study in Italy

Berkeley offers advanced students the opportunity of studying Italian in Bologna, Florence, Rome, or Milan. The programs feature courses in several aspects of Italian language, culture, and history. The department recognizes many of these courses as satisfying requirements in the Italian Studies curriculum. Students intending to use Study Abroad courses in this way should consult the undergraduate faculty adviser before departure. Details of the programs are available from Berkeley Programs for Study Abroad, 160 Stephens Hall, (510) 642-1356 or on the website (<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>) . (<http://studyabroad.berkeley.edu>)

Graduate Program

The Department of Italian Studies offers an integrated MA/PhD program, in which the MA constitutes the first phase in a trajectory leading to the PhD. Applications are not accepted for the MA degree alone. Students holding a master's degree or the equivalent in Italian Studies and related fields from other institutions may be admitted directly to the second phase of the program, as described below.

First Phase: Master of Arts in Italian Studies

Requirements

Completion of between 24 and 32 units of coursework, at least half of which must be in graduate seminars. The courses must include Italian Studies 205, 290A, and 290B. One 4-unit seminar course in each of at least three of four historical periods of Italian literature and culture: 13th-14th centuries; 15th-16th centuries; 17th-18th centuries; 19th-21st centuries. (This requirement is subject to waiver based on prior experience in equivalent courses). The exact number of units required for each student will be determined by the graduate adviser in consultation with the Graduate Committee at the time of enrollment, and will be based on a careful evaluation of the student's prior training in the field of Italian Studies. Students are required to demonstrate advanced reading skills in one language other than Italian and English which has a scholarly relevance to the field.

In the second year of this phase (end of semester 3, beginning of semester 4), students take a comprehensive written examination based on a reading list agreed upon by the student and the department. Upon Conferral of the MA degree is based on the written examination, achievement in coursework, and scholarship (attested by seminar papers) and, if applicable, achievement in teaching. Following successful completion of the MA phase of the program students prepare a statement outlining plans for work in the second, doctoral phase of the program and thereby formally requesting permission to proceed. More detailed information is available from the department website.

Second Phase: Doctor of Philosophy in Italian Studies

Requirements

Two to three years of coursework including Italian Studies 282, the exact number of units depending on the extent of the student's preparation. During this phase, students develop special expertise in a primary field in Italian studies, and a secondary field of Italian studies, prepare for an examination in their areas of specialization, and develop a dissertation topic. A provisional prospectus is produced in Italian Studies 282 and submitted for approval. The prospectus tutorial, presentation and approval usually takes place the semester preceding the one in which the QE is taken. The qualifying examination includes both written and oral components based on detailed proposals submitted with bibliography for a primary field and two special topics including the prospectus material which have been approved by the Graduate Adviser. Students must also demonstrate advanced reading ability in at least two languages other than Italian and English. The degree is conferred upon approval of a completed doctoral dissertation. Detailed information is available from the department.

develop expertise in the linguistics of two other Romance languages and specialize in the area of general or applied linguistics. This, together with some basic training in Latin, will prepare them for the comparative Romance linguistic work that is required for the Qualifying Examination.

For further information on this program, please see the Romance Languages and Literatures (<http://bulletin.berkeley.edu/archive/2013-14/departmentsandsubjects/romancelanguagesandliteratures>) page in this bulletin.

PhD in Romance Languages and Literatures (Emphasis Italian)

PhD in Romance Languages and Literatures with emphasis in Italian is also offered. Students admitted for this degree have a choice of two plans of study.

- In the **Literature track**, students will gain a detailed knowledge of Italian literature. They will also develop a familiarity with two other Romance literatures sufficient to allow them to do the focused comparative work necessary for the preparation of the Qualifying Examination. Moreover, students will develop both historical and practical expertise in Latin and in the three Romance languages.
- In the **Linguistics track**, students will gain in-depth knowledge of the structure and history (internal and external) of Italian. They will also

ITALIAN 1 Elementary Italian 5 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 5 hours of Lecture and 1 hour of Laboratory per week for 15 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Laboratory per week for 8 weeks.

Basic grammar for beginners: Part one.

ITALIAN 1G Reading Italian for Graduate Students 0.0 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Offered for satisfactory/unsatisfactory grade only.

Hours and format: 3 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 6 hours of Lecture per week for 8 weeks.

Basic grammar, reading comprehension, and translation.

ITALIAN 2 Elementary Italian 5 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 5 hours of Lecture and 1 hour of Laboratory per week for 15 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture and 2 hours of Laboratory per week for 8 weeks.

Prerequisites: 1 or 14A.

Basic grammar for beginners: Part two.

ITALIAN 3 Intermediate Italian 5 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 5 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks. 10 hours of Lecture per week for 8 weeks.

Prerequisites: 2.

Grammar review, reading, and written composition.

ITALIAN 4 Advanced Italian 5 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall and spring

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 5 hours of Lecture per week for 15 weeks.

Prerequisites: 3.

Selected readings in modern Italian prose; a review of the essentials of grammar; written and oral compositions.

ITALIAN R5A Reading and Composition 4 Units

Department: Italian Studies

Course level: Undergraduate

Terms course may be offered: Fall, spring and summer

Grading: Letter grade.

Hours and format: 3 hours lecture/discussion per week. 6 hours of lecture/discussion per week for 8 weeks. 8 hours of lecture/discussion per week for 6 weeks.

Prerequisites: UC Entry Level Writing Requirement or equivalent for R5A; R5A or equivalent for R5B.

Reading and composition course based on works by Italians and foreigners about Italy and its culture and by Italians about their distinctive experiences of other cultures as tourists and emigrants. Works studied will be primarily chosen from among fiction and non fiction narratives, both originally in English and translated into it. R5A satisfies the first half of the Reading and Composition Requirement and R5B satisfies the second half.